

A GENERAL REGISTRY of BIRTHS,

K E P T A T

The HERALDS OFFICE

816. m. 23. On St. Bennet's Hill near St. Paul's,

5. L O N D O N. *K. England*

As a General REGISTRY of BIRTHS will be of the *greatest Use* in preventing many Controversies, and clearing up various Difficulties with Respect to Inheritances and Claims of different Natures, The **KINGS, HERALDS, and PURSUIVANTS** of Arms have thought proper to open a *General Registry* of the Births of all Persons, whether *Natives, or Foreigners* (whom the extensive Commerce of this Nation may invite to live among Us), who shall think fit to apply to them at the **OFFICE of ARMS**.

The *supreme COURTS of JUDICATURE* being held near this *Metropolis*, a *General Registry* of Births from all Parts of His MAJESTY'S *Dominions* collected into one, and ready at hand to be consulted, as in the *Case of Wills*, must save great Trouble and Expence, which People are put to, when it is necessary to consult such *Registers*, as are now kept dispersed in the several *Parishes*; and which do not comprehend the numerous Births of Children not baptized in the *Establish'd Church*, or *not baptized at all*.

Proper Books will be provided for making the necessary *Entries, viz.* for **LONDON**, and Places within the *Bills of Mortality*; for the *Country*; and for the *Colonies* abroad: Likewise one for entering the Births of Persons of any Age born before *Christmas-Day, 1747*.

There will be *Daily Attendance* given, Holidays excepted, at the **OFFICE of ARMS, or Heralds Office** aforesaid, at the usual Office-Hours, *viz.* from *Nine* in the Morning till *One*, and from *Three* till *Five* in the Afternoon, by an *Herald* and a *Pursuivant*, who are *sworn Officers*; one of whom will make due and exact Entries of what is brought before them.

FOR such, who live in *London*, and can conveniently come to the Office, one or both the *Parents* are desired to attend there in Person; or, in case that can't be done, two Persons, who were present at the *Birth*, the *Midwife* for one, if convenient, may attend, and sign the Entry, which shall be witnessed by two *Officers of Arms* in the *Register-Book*, on paying the Fee of *Half a Crown*; and at the same time an *attested Certificate* of the Entry made shall be given upon Parchment, and sealed with the *Seal of the Office*.

For Persons at a *Distance*, they are desired to draw up a *Certificate*, to be signed either by one or both the *Parents*; or by two Persons present at the *Birth*, and, if convenient, the *Midwife* for one; and to go to some neighbouring *Justice of the Peace*, before whom they are desired to make *Affidavit* of the Truth; which *Certificate* and *Affidavit*, being transmitted to the *Office*, with the Fee of *Half a Crown*, shall be duly entered by one of the *Officers* in Waiting, and the *Originals* shall be filed, or otherwise carefully kept: But if one Person present at the *Birth* can attend the *Office*, and bring a *Certificate* signed by one or both the *Parents*, or two Persons present at the *Birth*, done in his Presence, such *Certificate* shall be enter'd, the Person so attending signing the Entry in the *Register-Book*, in the Presence of one of the *Officers* in Waiting.

If the Time and Place of the *Parents* MARRIAGE be also given in, it may be a Means of proving those Marriages with more Ease: But the *Mother's* Father's Name should always be inserted.

The Form of an ENTRY, when both Parents sign.

Our ^{Son John} ^{Daughter Ann} was born at our ^{House} ^{Lodgings} in the Parish of ^{Hatfield} ^{St. John's} in the ^{County} ^{City} of ^{Essex} ^{London}, on the *fourth* Day of *June*, in the Year *One thousand Seven hundred and Forty-one*; we having been married at *St. Bride's* in *London*, on the *third* Day of *May*, in the Year *1740*. as witness our Hands this *6th* of *Jan. 1747*.

Witnesses present at the Birth of
John Doe, on *June 4. 1741*. as above.

A. B. Midwife,
C. D. Nurse.

Richard Doe,
Son of *John Doe*, by *Ann*
his Wife, Daughter of
Tho. Stiles.

Mary Doe, Daughter of
John Roe, of *St. Luke's* in
the *City* of *York* ^{Ham}
County *Essex*.

The Form of an ENTRY, when only one Parent signs.

My ^{Son John} ^{Daughter Ann}, by *Mary* my Wife, Daughter of *John Roe*, of ^{St. Luke's} ^{Ham} in the ^{County} ^{City} of ^{York} ^{Essex}, to whom I was married at *St. Bride's* in *London*, on the *third* Day of *May*, in the Year *1740*. was born at my ^{Lodgings} ^{House} in the Parish of ^{Hatfield} ^{St. John's} in the ^{County} ^{City} of ^{Essex} ^{London}, on the *fourth* Day of *June*, in the Year *One thousand Seven hundred and Forty-one*; as witness my Hand, this *6th* *Jan. 1747*.

Witnesses present at the Birth of
John Doe, on *June 4. 1741*. as above.

A. B. Midwife,
C. D. Nurse.

Richard Doe,
Son of *John Doe*,
by *Ann* his Wife, Daughter of
Thomas Stiles.

N. B. If the Mother signs, the Form to be changed accordingly.

The Form of an ENTRY, when Parents are dead, or cannot attend; and the Marriages cannot be known.

^{John} ^{Ann} the ^{Son} ^{Daughter} of *Richard Doe*, by *Mary* his Wife, Daughter of *John Roe*, of ^{St. Luke's} ^{Ham} in the ^{County} ^{City} of ^{York} ^{Essex} was born at his Father's ^{House} ^{Lodgings} in the Parish of ^{St. John's} ^{Hatfield} in the ^{County} ^{City} of ^{London} ^{Essex}, on the *fourth* Day of *June*, in the Year *One thousand Seven hundred and Forty-one*; at which Birth we were present, and do certify, that the said *Richard* and *Mary Doe* did stile themselves Man and Wife, did cohabit, and were reputed as such, for at least nine Months before this Child was born; as witness our Hands this *6th* *Jan. 1747*.

A. B. Midwife,
C. D. Nurse,
and others present.